

89TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 7954

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 8 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1965

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce

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## AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to conform to the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, London (1960).

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       That section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934, as  
4       amended (47 U.S.C. 153), is amended as follows:

5       (1) Subsection (w) is amended by adding the following  
6       new paragraph at the end thereof:

7       “(5) ‘Nuclear ship’ means a ship provided with a  
8       nuclear powerplant.”

9       (2) Subsection (x) is amended to read as follows:

10       “(x) ‘Radiotelegraph auto alarm’ on a ship of the  
11       United States subject to the provisions of part II of title

1    III of this Act means an automatic alarm receiving appa-  
2    ratus which responds to the radiotelegraph alarm signal and  
3    has been approved by the Commission. ‘Radiotelegraph auto  
4    alarm’ on a foreign ship means an automatic alarm receiving  
5    apparatus which responds to the radiotelegraph alarm sig-  
6    nal and has been approved by the government of the country  
7    in which the ship is registered: *Provided*, That the United  
8    States and the country in which the ship is registered are  
9    parties to the same treaty, convention, or agreement pre-  
10   scribing the requirements for such apparatus. Nothing in  
11   this Act or in any other provision of law shall be construed  
12   to require the recognition of a radiotelegraph auto alarm as  
13   complying with part II of title III of this Act, on a foreign  
14   ship subject to such part, where the country in which the  
15   ship is registered and the United States are not parties to  
16   the same treaty, convention, or agreement prescribing the  
17   requirements for such apparatus.”

18        (3) Subsection (y) is amended to read as follows:

19        “(y) (1) ‘Operator’ on a ship of the United States  
20   means, for the purpose of parts II and III of title III of this  
21   Act, a person holding a radio operator’s license of the proper  
22   class as prescribed and issued by the Commission.

23        “(2) ‘Operator’ on a foreign ship means, for the purpose  
24   of part II of title III of this Act, a person holding a certifi-  
25   cate as such of the proper class complying with the provisions

1 of the radio regulations annexed to the International Tele-  
2 communication Convention in force, or complying with an  
3 agreement or treaty between the United States and the coun-  
4 try in which the ship is registered.”

5 (4) (A) Subsections (aa) through (dd) are redesign-  
6 nated as subsections (bb) through (ee), respectively; (B)  
7 subsections (ce) and (ff) are repealed; (C) subsection  
8 (gg) is redesignated as subsection (ff) ; (D) subsection (z)  
9 is redesignated as subsection (aa) ; and (E) the following  
10 new subsection is inserted immediately after subsection (y) :

11 “(z) (1) ‘Radio officer’ on a ship of the United States  
12 means, for the purpose of part II of title III of this Act, a  
13 person holding at least a first or second class radiotele-  
14 graph operator’s license as prescribed and issued by the  
15 Commission. When such person is employed to operate a  
16 radiotelegraph station aboard a ship of the United States,  
17 he is also required to be licensed as a ‘radio officer’ in ac-  
18 cordance with the Act of May 12, 1948 (46 U.S.C.  
19 229a-h) .

20 “(2) ‘Radio officer’ on a foreign ship means, for the  
21 purpose of part II of title III of this Act, a person holding  
22 at least a first or second class radiotelegraph operator’s cer-  
23 tificate complying with the provisions of the radio regu-  
24 lations annexed to the International Telecommunication  
25 Convention in force.”

1        SEC. 2. (a) The heading of section 351 of the Communi-  
2        cations Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows: "SHIP  
3        RADIO STATIONS AND OPERATIONS".

4        (b) Subsection (a) of such section 351 is amended to  
5        read as follows:

6        "(a) Except as provided in section 352 hereof it shall  
7        be unlawful—

8                "(1) For any ship of the United States, other than  
9        a cargo ship of less than three hundred gross tons, to  
10       be navigated in the open sea outside of a harbor or  
11       port, or for any ship of the United States or any foreign  
12       country, other than a cargo ship of less than three  
13       hundred gross tons, to leave or attempt to leave any  
14       harbor or port of the United States for a voyage in the  
15       open sea, unless such ship is equipped with an efficient  
16       radio station in operating condition, as specified by  
17       subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph, in  
18       charge of and operated by one or more radio officers  
19       or operators, adequately installed and protected so as  
20       to insure proper operation, and so as not to endanger  
21       the ship and radio station as hereinafter provided, and,  
22       in the case of a ship of the United States, unless there  
23       is on board a valid station license issued in accordance  
24       with this Act.

25                "(A) Passenger ships irrespective of size and

1 cargo ships of one thousand six hundred gross tons  
2 and upward shall be equipped with a radiotelegraph  
3 station complying with the provisions of this part;

4 “(B) Cargo ships of three hundred gross tons  
5 and upward but less than one thousand six hundred  
6 gross tons, unless equipped with a radiotelegraph  
7 station complying with the provisions of this part,  
8 shall be equipped with a radiotelephone station com-  
9 plying with the provisions of this part.

10 “(2) For any ship of the United States of one thou-  
11 sand six hundred gross tons and upward to be navigated  
12 in the open sea outside of a harbor or port, or for any  
13 such ship of the United States or any foreign country to  
14 leave or attempt to leave any harbor or port of the  
15 United States for a voyage in the open sea, unless such  
16 ship is equipped with efficient radio direction finding  
17 apparatus approved by the Commission, properly ad-  
18 justed in operating condition as hereinafter provided.”

19 SEC. 3. (a) Subsection (a) of section 352 of the Com-  
20 munications Act of 1934 is amended by striking out para-  
21 graph (6) and inserting after paragraph (5) thereof the  
22 following new paragraphs:

23 “(6) A ship navigating solely on any bays, sounds,  
24 rivers, or protected waters within the jurisdiction of the

1 United States, or to a ship leaving or attempting to leave  
2 any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage solely  
3 on any bays, sounds, rivers, or protected waters within the  
4 jurisdiction of the United States;

5 “(7) A ship navigating solely on the Great Lakes of  
6 North America and the River Saint Lawrence as far east as  
7 a straight line drawn from Cap des Rosiers to West Point,  
8 Anticosti Island, and, on the north side of Anticosti Island,  
9 the sixty-third meridian, or to a ship leaving or attempting  
10 to leave any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage  
11 solely on such waters and within such area;

12 “(8) A ship which is navigated during the course of a  
13 voyage both on the Great Lakes of North America and in  
14 the open sea, during the period while such ship is being  
15 navigated within the Great Lakes of North America and their  
16 connecting and tributary waters as far east as the lower exit  
17 of the Saint Lambert lock at Montreal in the Province of  
18 Quebec, Canada.”

19 (b) Subsection (b) of such section 352 is amended by  
20 striking out all through paragraph (1) and inserting in lieu  
21 thereof the following:

22 “(b) Except for nuclear ships, the Commission may, if  
23 it considers that the route or the conditions of the voyage  
24 or other circumstances are such as to render a radio station  
25 unreasonable or unnecessary for the purposes of this part,

1 exempt from the provisions of this part any ship or class of  
 2 ships which falls within any of the following descriptions:

3 “(1) Passenger ships which in the course of their voy-  
 4 age do not go more than twenty nautical miles from the  
 5 nearest land or, alternatively, do not go more than two hun-  
 6 dred nautical miles between two consecutive ports;”

7 (c) Such section 352 is further amended by adding at  
 8 the end thereof the following new subsection:

9 “(d) Except for nuclear ships, and except for ships of  
 10 five thousand gross tons and upward which are subject to  
 11 the Safety Convention, the Commission may exempt from  
 12 the requirements, for radio direction finding apparatus, of  
 13 this part and of the Safety Convention, any ship which falls  
 14 within the descriptions set forth in paragraphs (1), (2),  
 15 (3), and (4) of subsection (b) of this section, if it considers  
 16 that the route or conditions of the voyage or other circum-  
 17 stances are such as to render such apparatus unreasonable  
 18 or unnecessary.”

19 SEC. 4. Section 353 of the Communications Act of 1934  
 20 is amended to read as follows:

21 “**RADIO OFFICERS, WATCHES, AUTO ALARM-RADIOTELE-**  
 22 **GRAPH EQUIPPED SHIPS**

23 “SEC. 353. (a) Each cargo ship which in accordance  
 24 with this part is equipped with a radiotelegraph station and  
 25 which is not equipped with a radiotelegraph auto alarm, and

1 each passenger ship required by this part to be equipped with  
2 a radiotelegraph station, shall, for safety purposes, carry at  
3 least two radio officers.

4 “(b) A cargo ship which in accordance with this part  
5 is equipped with a radiotelegraph station, which is equipped  
6 with a radiotelegraph auto alarm, shall, for safety purposes,  
7 carry at least one radio officer who shall have had at least  
8 six months’ previous service in the aggregate as a radio officer  
9 in a station on board a ship or ships of the United States.

10 “(c) Each ship of the United States which in accord-  
11 ance with this part is equipped with a radiotelegraph sta-  
12 tion shall, while being navigated in the open sea outside of  
13 a harbor or port, keep a continuous watch by means of radio  
14 officers whenever the station is not being used for authorized  
15 traffic: *Provided*, That, in lieu thereof, on a cargo ship  
16 equipped with a radiotelegraph auto alarm in proper operat-  
17 ing condition, a watch of at least eight hours per day, in the  
18 aggregate, shall be maintained by means of a radio officer.

19 “(d) The Commission shall, when it finds it necessary  
20 for safety purposes, have authority to prescribe the par-  
21 ticular hours of watch on a ship of the United States which  
22 in accordance with this part is equipped with a radiotele-  
23 graph station.

24 “(e) On all ships of the United States equipped with a  
25 radiotelegraph auto alarm, said apparatus shall be in opera-



1 tion at all times while the ship is being navigated in the  
2 open sea outside of a harbor or port when the radio officer  
3 is not on watch."

4 SEC. 5. Section 354 of the Communications Act of 1934  
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 "OPERATORS, WATCHES—RADIO TELEPHONE EQUIPPED  
7 SHIPS

8 "SEC. 354. (a) Each cargo ship which in accordance  
9 with this part is equipped with a radiotelephone station shall,  
10 for safety purposes, carry at least one operator who may be  
11 the master, an officer, or a member of the crew.

12 "(b) Each cargo ship of the United States which in  
13 accordance with this part is equipped with a radiotelephone  
14 station shall, while being navigated in the open sea outside  
15 of a harbor or port, maintain continuous watch whenever the  
16 station is not being used for authorized traffic."

17 SEC. 6. Section 355 of the Communications Act of 1934  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 "TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEGRAPH EQUIPPED  
20 SHIPS

21 "SEC. 355. The radiotelegraph station and the radio  
22 direction finding apparatus required by section 351 of this  
23 part shall comply with the following requirements:

24 "(a) The radiotelegraph station shall include a main in-

1 stallation and a reserve installation, electrically separate and  
2 electrically independent of each other: *Provided*, That, in  
3 installations on cargo ships of three hundred gross tons and  
4 upward but less than one thousand six hundred gross  
5 tons, and in installations on cargo ships of one thousand  
6 six hundred gross tons and upward installed prior to No-  
7 vember 19, 1952, if the main transmitter complies with all  
8 the requirements for the reserve transmitter, the latter may  
9 be omitted.

10 “(b) The radiotelegraph station shall be so located that  
11 no harmful interference from extraneous mechanical or other  
12 noise will be caused to the proper reception of radio signals,  
13 and shall be placed in the upper part of the ship in a position  
14 of the greatest possible safety and as high as practicable  
15 above the deepest load waterline. The location of the radio-  
16 telegraph operating room or rooms shall be approved by the  
17 Commandant of the Coast Guard. The radiotelegraph instal-  
18 lation shall be installed in such a position that it will be pro-  
19 tected against the harmful effects of water or extremes of  
20 temperature, and shall be readily accessible both for imme-  
21 diate use in case of distress and for repair.

22 “(c) The radiotelegraph operating room shall be of  
23 sufficient size and of adequate ventilation to enable the  
24 main and reserve radiotelegraph installations to be operated

1 efficiently, and shall not be used for any purpose which will  
2 interfere with the operation of the radiotelegraph station.  
3 The sleeping accommodation of at least one radio officer  
4 shall be situated as near as practicable to the radiotelegraph  
5 operating room. In ships the keels of which are laid on or  
6 after May 26, 1965, this sleeping accommodation shall not  
7 be within the radiotelegraph operating room.

8 “(d) The main and reserve installations shall be capable  
9 of transmitting and receiving on the frequencies, and using  
10 the classes of emission, designated by the Commission pur-  
11 suant to law for the purposes of distress and safety of  
12 navigation.

13 “(e) The main and reserve installations shall, when  
14 connected to the main antenna, have a minimum normal  
15 range of two hundred nautical miles and one hundred nau-  
16 tical miles, respectively; that is, they must be capable of  
17 transmitting and receiving clearly perceptible signals from  
18 ship to ship by day and under normal conditions and circum-  
19 stances over the specified ranges.

20 “(f) Sufficient electrical energy shall be available at  
21 all times to operate the main installation over the normal  
22 range required by subsection (e) of this section as well as  
23 for the purpose of charging any batteries forming part of  
24 the radiotelegraph station.

1       “(g) The reserve installation shall include a source of  
2   electrical energy independent of the propelling power of the  
3   ship and of any other electrical system and shall be capable  
4   of being put into operation rapidly and of working for at  
5   least six continuous hours. The reserve source of energy  
6   and its switchboard shall be as high as practicable in the  
7   ship and readily accessible to the radio officer.

8       “(h) There shall be provided between the bridge of  
9   the ship and the radiotelegraph operating room, and be-  
10   tween the bridge and the location of the radio direction  
11   finding apparatus, when such apparatus is not located on  
12   the bridge, an efficient two-way system for calling and voice  
13   communication which shall be independent of any other  
14   communication system in the ship.

15       “(i) The radio direction finding apparatus shall be  
16   efficient and capable of receiving signals with the minimum  
17   of receiver noise and of taking bearings from which the  
18   true bearing and direction may be determined. It shall be  
19   capable of receiving signals on the radiotelegraph frequen-  
20   cies assigned by the radio regulations annexed to the In-  
21   ternational Telecommunication Convention in force for the  
22   purposes of distress, direction finding, and maritime radio  
23   beacons, and, in installations made after May 26, 1965,  
24   such other frequencies as the Commission may for safety  
25   purposes designate.”

1        SEC. 7. Section 356 of the Communications Act of 1934  
2    is amended to read as follows:

3 "TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEPHONE EQUIPPED  
4 SHIPS

5       “SEC. 356. Cargo ships of three hundred gross tons and  
6   upward but less than one thousand six hundred gross tons  
7   may, in lieu of the radiotelegraph station prescribed by sec-  
8   tion 355, be equipped with a radiotelephone station comply-  
9   ing with the following requirements:

10       “(a) The radiotelephone station shall be in the upper  
11 part of the ship, so located that it is sheltered to the greatest  
12 possible extent from noise which might impair the correct  
13 reception of messages and signals, and, unless such station  
14 is situated on the bridge, there shall be efficient communica-  
15 tion with the bridge.

16       “(b) The radiotelephone installation shall be capable of  
17 transmitting and receiving on the frequencies, and using the  
18 classes of emission, designated by the Commission pursuant  
19 to law for the purposes of distress and safety of navigation.

20       “(c) The radiotelephone installation shall have a mini-  
21   mum normal range of one hundred and fifty nautical miles;  
22   that is, it shall be capable of transmitting and receiving  
23   clearly perceptible signals from ship to ship by day and  
24   under normal conditions and circumstances over this range.

1       “(d) There shall be available at all times a main source  
2 of electrical energy sufficient to operate the installation over  
3 the normal range required by subsection (c) of this section.  
4 If batteries are provided they shall have sufficient capacity  
5 to operate the transmitter and receiver for at least six con-  
6 tinuous hours under normal working conditions. In installa-  
7 tions made on or after November 19, 1952, a reserve source  
8 of electrical energy shall be provided in the upper part of the  
9 ship unless the main source of energy is so situated.”

10       SEC. 8. Section 357 of the Communications Act of 1934  
11 is amended to read as follows:

12                               “SURVIVAL CRAFT

13       “SEC. 357. Every ship required to be provided with sur-  
14 vival craft radio by treaty to which the United States is a  
15 party, by statute, or by regulation made in conformity with a  
16 treaty, convention, or statute, shall be fitted with efficient  
17 radio equipment appropriate to such requirement under such  
18 rules and regulations as the Commission may find necessary  
19 for safety of life. For purposes of this section, ‘radio equip-  
20 ment’ shall include portable as well as nonportable appa-  
21 ratus.”

22       SEC. 9. Subsection (a) of section 359 of the Communi-  
23 cations Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows:

24       “(a) The master of every ship of the United States,

1 equipped with radio transmitting apparatus, which meets  
2 with dangerous ice, a dangerous derelict, a tropical storm, or  
3 any other direct danger to navigation, or encounters sub-  
4 freezing air temperatures associated with gale force winds  
5 causing severe ice accretion on superstructures, or winds of  
6 force 10 or above on the Beaufort scale for which no storm  
7 warning has been received, shall cause to be transmitted all  
8 pertinent information relating thereto to ships in the vicinity  
9 and to the appropriate authorities on land, in accordance with  
10 rules and regulations issued by the Commission. When they  
11 consider it necessary, such authorities of the United States  
12 shall promptly bring the information received by them to  
13 the knowledge of those concerned, including interested for-  
14 eign authorities.”

15       SEC. 10. Section 361 of the Communications Act of  
16 1934 is amended to read as follows:

17                               “CERTIFICATES

18       “SEC. 361. (a) Each vessel of the United States to  
19 which the Safety Convention applies shall comply with the  
20 radio and communication provisions of said Convention at all  
21 times while the vessel is in use, in addition to all other re-  
22 quirements of law, and shall have on board an appropriate  
23 certificate as prescribed by the Safety Convention.

1       “(b) Appropriate certificates concerning the radio par-  
2       ticulars provided for in said Convention shall be issued upon  
3       proper request to any vessel which is subject to the radio  
4       provisions of the Safety Convention and is found by the Com-  
5       mission to comply therewith. Cargo ship safety radio teleg-  
6       raphy certificates, cargo ship safety radiotelephony cer-  
7       tificates, and exemption certificates with respect to radio  
8       particulars shall be issued by the Commission. Other cer-  
9       tificates concerning the radio particulars provided for in the  
10      said Convention shall be issued by the Commandant of the  
11      Coast Guard or whatever other agency is authorized by law  
12      to do so upon request of the Commission made after proper  
13      inspection or determination of the facts. If the holder of a  
14      certificate violates the radio provisions of the Safety Conven-  
15      tion or the provisions of this Act, or the rules, regulations, or  
16      conditions prescribed by the Commission, and if the effective  
17      administration of the Safety Convention or of this part so  
18      requires, the Commission, after hearing in accordance with  
19      law, is authorized to modify or cancel a certificate which it  
20      has issued, or to request the modification or cancellation of a  
21      certificate which has been issued by another agency upon  
22      the Commission’s request. Upon receipt of such request for  
23      modification or cancellation, the Commandant of the Coast



1 Guard, or whatever agency is authorized by law to do so,  
2 shall modify or cancel the certificate in accordance there-  
3 with.”

Passed the House of Representatives June 7, 1965.

Attest: **RALPH R. ROBERTS,**  
*Clerk.*

89TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 7954

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## AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to conform to the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, London (1960).

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JUNE 8 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1965

Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Commerce

Calendar No. 510

89<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7954

[Report No. 526]

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 8 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1965

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce

JULY 28 (legislative day, JULY 27), 1965

Reported by Mr. PASTORE, without amendment

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## AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to conform to the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, London (1960).

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934, as  
4       amended (47 U.S.C. 153), is amended as follows:

5       (1) Subsection (w) is amended by adding the following  
6       new paragraph at the end thereof:

7       “(5) ‘Nuclear ship’ means a ship provided with a  
8       nuclear powerplant.”

9       (2) Subsection (x) is amended to read as follows:

10       “(x) ‘Radiotelegraph auto alarm’ on a ship of the  
11       United States subject to the provisions of part II of title

1   III of this Act means an automatic alarm receiving appa-  
2   ratus which responds to the radiotelegraph alarm signal and  
3   has been approved by the Commission. ‘Radiotelegraph auto  
4   alarm’ on a foreign ship means an automatic alarm receiving  
5   apparatus which responds to the radiotelegraph alarm sig-  
6   nal and has been approved by the government of the country  
7   in which the ship is registered: *Provided*, That the United  
8   States and the country in which the ship is registered are  
9   parties to the same treaty, convention, or agreement pre-  
10   scribing the requirements for such apparatus. Nothing in  
11   this Act or in any other provision of law shall be construed  
12   to require the recognition of a radiotelegraph auto alarm as  
13   complying with part II of title III of this Act, on a foreign  
14   ship subject to such part, where the country in which the  
15   ship is registered and the United States are not parties to  
16   the same treaty, convention, or agreement prescribing the  
17   requirements for such apparatus.”

18       (3) Subsection (y) is amended to read as follows:

19       “(y) (1) ‘Operator’ on a ship of the United States  
20   means, for the purpose of parts II and III of title III of this  
21   Act, a person holding a radio operator’s license of the proper  
22   class as prescribed and issued by the Commission.

23       “(2) ‘Operator’ on a foreign ship means, for the purpose  
24   of part II of title III of this Act, a person holding a certifi-  
25   cate as such of the proper class complying with the provisions

1 of the radio regulations annexed to the International Tele-  
2 communication Convention in force, or complying with an  
3 agreement or treaty between the United States and the coun-  
4 try in which the ship is registered.”

5 (4) (A) Subsections (aa) through (dd) are redesign-  
6 nated as subsections (bb) through (ee), respectively; (B)  
7 subsections (ee) and (ff) are repealed; (C) subsection  
8 (gg) is redesignated as subsection (ff); (D) subsection (z)  
9 is redesignated as subsection (aa); and (E) the following  
10 new subsection is inserted immediately after subsection (y) :

11 “(z) (1) ‘Radio officer’ on a ship of the United States  
12 means, for the purpose of part II of title III of this Act, a  
13 person holding at least a first or second class radiotele-  
14 graph operator’s license as prescribed and issued by the  
15 Commission. When such person is employed to operate a  
16 radiotelegraph station aboard a ship of the United States,  
17 he is also required to be licensed as a ‘radio officer’ in ac-  
18 cordance with the Act of May 12, 1948 (46 U.S.C.  
19 229a-h).

20 “(2) ‘Radio officer’ on a foreign ship means, for the  
21 purpose of part II of title III of this Act, a person holding  
22 at least a first or second class radiotelegraph operator’s cer-  
23 tificate complying with the provisions of the radio regu-  
24 lations annexed to the International Telecommunication  
25 Convention in force.”

1        SEC. 2. (a) The heading of section 351 of the Communi-  
2        cations Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows: "SHIP  
3        RADIO STATIONS AND OPERATIONS".

4        (b) Subsection (a) of such section 351 is amended to  
5        read as follows:

6        "(a) Except as provided in section 352 hereof it shall  
7        be unlawful—

8                "(1) For any ship of the United States, other than  
9        a cargo ship of less than three hundred gross tons, to  
10       be navigated in the open sea outside of a harbor or  
11       port, or for any ship of the United States or any foreign  
12       country, other than a cargo ship of less than three  
13       hundred gross tons, to leave or attempt to leave any  
14       harbor or port of the United States for a voyage in the  
15       open sea, unless such ship is equipped with an efficient  
16       radio station in operating condition, as specified by  
17       subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph, in  
18       charge of and operated by one or more radio officers  
19       or operators, adequately installed and protected so as  
20       to insure proper operation, and so as not to endanger  
21       the ship and radio station as hereinafter provided, and,  
22       in the case of a ship of the United States, unless there  
23       is on board a valid station license issued in accordance  
24       with this Act.

25                "(A) Passenger ships irrespective of size and

1 cargo ships of one thousand six hundred gross tons  
2 and upward shall be equipped with a radiotelegraph  
3 station complying with the provisions of this part;

4 “(B) Cargo ships of three hundred gross tons  
5 and upward but less than one thousand six hundred  
6 gross tons, unless equipped with a radiotelegraph  
7 station complying with the provisions of this part,  
8 shall be equipped with a radiotelephone station com-  
9 plying with the provisions of this part.

10 “(2) For any ship of the United States of one thou-  
11 sand six hundred gross tons and upward to be navigated  
12 in the open sea outside of a harbor or port, or for any  
13 such ship of the United States or any foreign country to  
14 leave or attempt to leave any harbor or port of the  
15 United States for a voyage in the open sea, unless such  
16 ship is equipped with efficient radio direction finding  
17 apparatus approved by the Commission, properly ad-  
18 justed in operating condition as hereinafter provided.”

19 SEC. 3. (a) Subsection (a) of section 352 of the Com-  
20 munications Act of 1934 is amended by striking out para-  
21 graph (6) and inserting after paragraph (5) thereof the  
22 following new paragraphs:

23 “(6) A ship navigating solely on any bays, sounds,  
24 rivers, or protected waters within the jurisdiction of the

1 United States, or to a ship leaving or attempting to leave  
2 any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage solely  
3 on any bays, sounds, rivers, or protected waters within the  
4 jurisdiction of the United States;

5 “(7) A ship navigating solely on the Great Lakes of  
6 North America and the River Saint Lawrence as far east as  
7 a straight line drawn from Cap des Rosiers to West Point,  
8 Anticosti Island, and, on the north side of Anticosti Island,  
9 the sixty-third meridian, or to a ship leaving or attempting  
10 to leave any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage  
11 solely on such waters and within such area;

12 “(8) A ship which is navigated during the course of a  
13 voyage both on the Great Lakes of North America and in  
14 the open sea, during the period while such ship is being  
15 navigated within the Great Lakes of North America and their  
16 connecting and tributary waters as far east as the lower exit  
17 of the Saint Lambert lock at Montreal in the Province of  
18 Quebec, Canada.”

19 (b) Subsection (b) of such section 352 is amended by  
20 striking out all through paragraph (1) and inserting in lieu  
21 thereof the following:

22 “(b) Except for nuclear ships, the Commission may, if  
23 it considers that the route or the conditions of the voyage  
24 or other circumstances are such as to render a radio station  
25 unreasonable or unnecessary for the purposes of this part,



1 exempt from the provisions of this part any ship or class of  
2 ships which falls within any of the following descriptions:

3 “(1) Passenger ships which in the course of their voy-  
4 age do not go more than twenty nautical miles from the  
5 nearest land or, alternatively, do not go more than two hun-  
6 dred nautical miles between two consecutive ports;”

7 (c) Such section 352 is further amended by adding at  
8 the end thereof the following new subsection:

9 “(d) Except for nuclear ships, and except for ships of  
10 five thousand gross tons and upward which are subject to  
11 the Safety Convention, the Commission may exempt from  
12 the requirements, for radio direction finding apparatus, of  
13 this part and of the Safety Convention, any ship which falls  
14 within the descriptions set forth in paragraphs (1), (2),  
15 (3), and (4) of subsection (b ) of this section, if it considers  
16 that the route or conditions of the voyage or other circum-  
17 stances are such as to render such apparatus unreasonable  
18 or unnecessary.”

19 SEC. 4. Section 353 of the Communications Act of 1934  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 “RADIO OFFICERS, WATCHES, AUTO ALARM-RADIOTELE-  
22 GRAPH EQUIPPED SHIPS

23 “SEC. 353. (a) Each cargo ship which in accordance  
24 with this part is equipped with a radiotelegraph station and  
25 which is not equipped with a radiotelegraph auto alarm, and

1 each passenger ship required by this part to be equipped with  
2 a radiotelegraph station, shall, for safety purposes, carry at  
3 least two radio officers.

4 “(b) A cargo ship which in accordance with this part  
5 is equipped with a radiotelegraph station, which is equipped  
6 with a radiotelegraph auto alarm, shall, for safety purposes,  
7 carry at least one radio officer who shall have had at least  
8 six months’ previous service in the aggregate as a radio officer  
9 in a station on board a ship or ships of the United States..

10 “(c) Each ship of the United States which in accord-  
11 ance with this part is equipped with a radiotelegraph sta-  
12 tion shall, while being navigated in the open sea outside of  
13 a harbor or port, keep a continuous watch by means of radio  
14 officers whenever the station is not being used for authorized  
15 traffic: *Provided*, That, in lieu thereof, on a cargo ship  
16 equipped with a radiotelegraph auto alarm in proper operat-  
17 ing condition, a watch of at least eight hours per day, in the  
18 aggregate, shall be maintained by means of a radio officer.

19 “(d) The Commission shall, when it finds it necessary  
20 for safety purposes, have authority to prescribe the par-  
21 ticular hours of watch on a ship of the United States which  
22 in accordance with this part is equipped with a radiotele-  
23 graph station.

24 “(e) On all ships of the United States equipped with a  
25 radiotelegraph auto alarm, said apparatus shall be in opera-

tion at all times while the ship is being navigated in the open sea outside of a harbor or port when the radio officer is not on watch."

SEC. 5. Section 354 of the Communications Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows:

"OPERATORS, WATCHES—RADIO TELEPHONE EQUIPPED  
SHIPS

"SEC. 354. (a) Each cargo ship which in accordance with this part is equipped with a radiotelephone station shall, for safety purposes, carry at least one operator who may be the master, an officer, or a member of the crew.

"(b) Each cargo ship of the United States which in accordance with this part is equipped with a radiotelephone station shall, while being navigated in the open sea outside of a harbor or port, maintain continuous watch whenever the station is not being used for authorized traffic."

SEC. 6. Section 355 of the Communications Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows:

"TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEGRAPH EQUIPPED"  
SHIPS

"SEC. 355. The radiotelegraph station and the radio direction finding apparatus required by section 351 of this part shall comply with the following requirements:

"(a) The radiotelegraph station shall include a main in-

1   stallation and a reserve installation, electrically separate and  
2   electrically independent of each other: *Provided*, That, in  
3   installations on cargo ships of three hundred gross tons and  
4   upward but less than one thousand six hundred gross  
5   tons, and in installations on cargo ships of one thousand  
6   six hundred gross tons and upward installed prior to No-  
7   vember 19, 1952, if the main transmitter complies with all  
8   the requirements for the reserve transmitter, the latter may  
9   be omitted.

10       “(b) The radiotelegraph station shall be so located that  
11   no harmful interference from extraneous mechanical or other  
12   noise will be caused to the proper reception of radio signals,  
13   and shall be placed in the upper part of the ship in a position  
14   of the greatest possible safety and as high as practicable  
15   above the deepest load waterline. The location of the radio-  
16   telegraph operating room or rooms shall be approved by the  
17   Commandant of the Coast Guard. The radiotelegraph instal-  
18   lation shall be installed in such a position that it will be pro-  
19   tected against the harmful effects of water or extremes of  
20   temperature, and shall be readily accessible both for imme-  
21   diate use in case of distress and for repair.

22       “(c) The radiotelegraph operating room shall be of  
23   sufficient size and of adequate ventilation to enable the  
24   main and reserve radiotelegraph installations to be operated

1 efficiently, and shall not be used for any purpose which will  
2 interfere with the operation of the radiotelegraph station.  
3 The sleeping accommodation of at least one radio officer  
4 shall be situated as near as practicable to the radiotelegraph  
5 operating room. In ships the keels of which are laid on or  
6 after May 26, 1965, this sleeping accommodation shall not  
7 be within the radiotelegraph operating room.

8 “(d) The main and reserve installations shall be capable  
9 of transmitting and receiving on the frequencies, and using  
10 the classes of emission, designated by the Commission pur-  
11 suant to law for the purposes of distress and safety of  
12 navigation.

13 “(e) The main and reserve installations shall, when  
14 connected to the main antenna, have a minimum normal  
15 range of two hundred nautical miles and one hundred nau-  
16 tical miles, respectively; that is, they must be capable of  
17 transmitting and receiving clearly perceptible signals from  
18 ship to ship by day and under normal conditions and circum-  
19 stances over the specified ranges.

20 “(f) Sufficient electrical energy shall be available at  
21 all times to operate the main installation over the normal  
22 range required by subsection (e) of this section as well as  
23 for the purpose of charging any batteries forming part of  
24 the radiotelegraph station.

1       “(g) The reserve installation shall include a source of  
2   electrical energy independent of the propelling power of the  
3   ship and of any other electrical system and shall be capable  
4   of being put into operation rapidly and of working for at  
5   least six continuous hours. The reserve source of energy  
6   and its switchboard shall be as high as practicable in the  
7   ship and readily accessible to the radio officer.

8       “(h) There shall be provided between the bridge of  
9   the ship and the radiotelegraph operating room, and be-  
10   tween the bridge and the location of the radio direction  
11   finding apparatus, when such apparatus is not located on  
12   the bridge, an efficient two-way system for calling and voice  
13   communication which shall be independent of any other  
14   communication system in the ship.

15       “(i) The radio direction finding apparatus shall be  
16   efficient and capable of receiving signals with the minimum  
17   of receiver noise and of taking bearings from which the  
18   true bearing and direction may be determined. It shall be  
19   capable of receiving signals on the radiotelegraph frequen-  
20   cies assigned by the radio regulations annexed to the In-  
21   ternational Telecommunication Convention in force for the  
22   purposes of distress, direction finding, and maritime radio  
23   beacons, and, in installations made after May 26, 1965,  
24   such other frequencies as the Commission may for safety  
25   purposes designate.”

1        SEC. 7. Section 356 of the Communications Act of 1934  
2   is amended to read as follows:

3 "TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEPHONE EQUIPPED  
4 SHIPS

5       “SEC. 356. Cargo ships of three hundred gross tons and  
6   upward but less than one thousand six hundred gross tons  
7   may, in lieu of the radiotelegraph station prescribed by sec-  
8   tion 355, be equipped with a radiotelephone station comply-  
9   ing with the following requirements:

10       “(a) The radiotelephone station shall be in the upper  
11 part of the ship, so located that it is sheltered to the greatest  
12 possible extent from noise which might impair the correct  
13 reception of messages and signals, and, unless such station  
14 is situated on the bridge, there shall be efficient communica-  
15 tion with the bridge.

16       “(b) The radiotelephone installation shall be capable of  
17 transmitting and receiving on the frequencies, and using the  
18 classes of emission, designated by the Commission pursuant  
19 to law for the purposes of distress and safety of navigation.

20 “(c) The radiotelephone installation shall have a mini-  
21 mum normal range of one hundred and fifty nautical miles;  
22 that is, it shall be capable of transmitting and receiving  
23 clearly perceptible signals from ship to ship by day and  
24 under normal conditions and circumstances over this range.

1       “(d) There shall be available at all times a main source  
2 of electrical energy sufficient to operate the installation over  
3 the normal range required by subsection (c) of this section.  
4 If batteries are provided they shall have sufficient capacity  
5 to operate the transmitter and receiver for at least six con-  
6 tinuous hours under normal working conditions. In installa-  
7 tions made on or after November 19, 1952, a reserve source  
8 of electrical energy shall be provided in the upper part of the  
9 ship unless the main source of energy is so situated.”

10       SEC. 8. Section 357 of the Communications Act of 1934  
11 is amended to read as follows:

12                               “SURVIVAL CRAFT

13       “SEC. 357. Every ship required to be provided with sur-  
14 vival craft radio by treaty to which the United States is a  
15 party, by statute, or by regulation made in conformity with a  
16 treaty, convention, or statute, shall be fitted with efficient  
17 radio equipment appropriate to such requirement under such  
18 rules and regulations as the Commission may find necessary  
19 for safety of life. For purposes of this section, ‘radio equip-  
20 ment’ shall include portable as well as nonportable appa-  
21 ratus.”

22       SEC. 9. Subsection (a) of section 359 of the Communi-  
23 cations Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows:

24       “(a) The master of every ship of the United States,



1 equipped with radio transmitting apparatus, which meets  
2 with dangerous ice, a dangerous derelict, a tropical storm, or  
3 any other direct danger to navigation, or encounters sub-  
4 freezing air temperatures associated with gale force winds  
5 causing severe ice accretion on superstructures, or winds of  
6 force 10 or above on the Beaufort scale for which no storm  
7 warning has been received, shall cause to be transmitted all  
8 pertinent information relating thereto to ships in the vicinity  
9 and to the appropriate authorities on land, in accordance with  
10 rules and regulations issued by the Commission. When they  
11 consider it necessary, such authorities of the United States  
12 shall promptly bring the information received by them to  
13 the knowledge of those concerned, including interested for-  
14 eign authorities.”

15 SEC. 10. Section 361 of the Communications Act of  
16 1934 is amended to read as follows:

17 “CERTIFICATES

18 “SEC. 361. (a) Each vessel of the United States to  
19 which the Safety Convention applies shall comply with the  
20 radio and communication provisions of said Convention at all  
21 times while the vessel is in use, in addition to all other re-  
22 quirements of law, and shall have on board an appropriate  
23 certificate as prescribed by the Safety Convention.

1       “(b) Appropriate certificates concerning the radio par-  
2     ticulars provided for in said Convention shall be issued upon  
3     proper request to any vessel which is subject to the radio  
4     provisions of the Safety Convention and is found by the Com-  
5     mission to comply therewith. Cargo ship safety radio teleg-  
6     raphy certificates, cargo ship safety radiotelephony cer-  
7     tificates, and exemption certificates with respect to radio  
8     particulars shall be issued by the Commission. Other cer-  
9     tificates concerning the radio particulars provided for in the  
10    said Convention shall be issued by the Commandant of the  
11    Coast Guard or whatever other agency is authorized by law  
12    to do so upon request of the Commission made after proper  
13    inspection or determination of the facts. If the holder of a  
14    certificate violates the radio provisions of the Safety Conven-  
15    tion or the provisions of this Act, or the rules, regulations, or  
16    conditions prescribed by the Commission, and if the effective  
17    administration of the Safety Convention or of this part so  
18    requires, the Commission, after hearing in accordance with  
19    law, is authorized to modify or cancel a certificate which it  
20    has issued, or to request the modification or cancellation of a  
21    certificate which has been issued by another agency upon  
22    the Commission’s request. Upon receipt of such request for  
23    modification or cancellation, the Commandant of the Coast

1 Guard, or whatever agency is authorized by law to do so,  
2 shall modify or cancel the certificate in accordance there-  
3 with.”

Passed the House of Representatives June 7, 1965.

Attest: RALPH R. ROBERTS,  
*Clerk.*

Calendar No. 510

89TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 7954**

[Report No. 526]

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**AN ACT**

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to conform to the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, London (1960).

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JUNE 8 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1965

**Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Commerce**

JULY 28 (legislative day, JULY 27), 1965

Reported without amendment

Calendar No. 510

89<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7954

[Report No. 526]

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 8 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1965

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce

JULY 28 (legislative day, JULY 27), 1965

Reported by Mr. PASTORE, without amendment

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## AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to conform to the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, London (1960).

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934, as  
4       amended (47 U.S.C. 153), is amended as follows:

5       (1) Subsection (w) is amended by adding the following  
6       new paragraph at the end thereof:

7       “(5) ‘Nuclear ship’ means a ship provided with a  
8       nuclear powerplant.”

9       (2) Subsection (x) is amended to read as follows:

10       “(x) ‘Radiotelegraph auto alarm’ on a ship of the  
11       United States subject to the provisions of part II of title

1 III of this Act means an automatic alarm receiving appa-  
2 ratus which responds to the radiotelegraph alarm signal and  
3 has been approved by the Commission. 'Radiotelegraph auto  
4 alarm' on a foreign ship means an automatic alarm receiving  
5 apparatus which responds to the radiotelegraph alarm sig-  
6 nal and has been approved by the government of the country  
7 in which the ship is registered: *Provided*, That the United  
8 States and the country in which the ship is registered are  
9 parties to the same treaty, convention, or agreement pre-  
10 scribing the requirements for such apparatus. Nothing in  
11 this Act or in any other provision of law shall be construed  
12 to require the recognition of a radiotelegraph auto alarm as  
13 complying with part II of title III of this Act, on a foreign  
14 ship subject to such part, where the country in which the  
15 ship is registered and the United States are not parties to  
16 the same treaty, convention, or agreement prescribing the  
17 requirements for such apparatus."

18 (3) Subsection (y) is amended to read as follows:

19 "(y) (1) 'Operator' on a ship of the United States  
20 means, for the purpose of parts II and III of title III of this  
21 Act, a person holding a radio operator's license of the proper  
22 class as prescribed and issued by the Commission.

23 "(2) 'Operator' on a foreign ship means, for the purpose  
24 of part II of title III of this Act, a person holding a certifi-  
25 cate as such of the proper class complying with the provisions

1 of the radio regulations annexed to the International Tele-  
2 communication Convention in force, or complying with an  
3 agreement or treaty between the United States and the coun-  
4 try in which the ship is registered.”

5 (4) (A) Subsections (aa) through (dd) are redesign-  
6 nated as subsections (bb) through (ee), respectively; (B)  
7 subsections (ee) and (ff) are repealed; (C) subsection  
8 (gg) is redesignated as subsection (ff) ; (D) subsection (z)  
9 is redesignated as subsection (aa) ; and (E) the following  
10 new subsection is inserted immediately after subsection (y) :

11 “(z) (1) ‘Radio officer’ on a ship of the United States  
12 means, for the purpose of part II of title III of this Act, a  
13 person holding at least a first or second class radiotele-  
14 graph operator’s license as prescribed and issued by the  
15 Commission. When such person is employed to operate a  
16 radiotelegraph station aboard a ship of the United States,  
17 he is also required to be licensed as a ‘radio officer’ in ac-  
18 cordance with the Act of May 12, 1948 (46 U.S.C.  
19 229a-h) .

20 “(2) ‘Radio officer’ on a foreign ship means, for the  
21 purpose of part II of title III of this Act, a person holding  
22 at least a first or second class radiotelegraph operator’s cer-  
23 tificate complying with the provisions of the radio regu-  
24 lations annexed to the International Telecommunication  
25 Convention in force.”

1        SEC. 2. (a) The heading of section 351 of the Communi-  
2        cations Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows: "SHIP  
3        RADIO STATIONS AND OPERATIONS".

4        (b) Subsection (a) of such section 351 is amended to  
5        read as follows:

6        "(a) Except as provided in section 352 hereof it shall  
7        be unlawful—

8        "(1) For any ship of the United States, other than  
9        a cargo ship of less than three hundred gross tons, to  
10       be navigated in the open sea outside of a harbor or  
11       port, or for any ship of the United States or any foreign  
12       country, other than a cargo ship of less than three  
13       hundred gross tons, to leave or attempt to leave any  
14       harbor or port of the United States for a voyage in the  
15       open sea, unless such ship is equipped with an efficient  
16       radio station in operating condition, as specified by  
17       subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph, in  
18       charge of and operated by one or more radio officers  
19       or operators, adequately installed and protected so as  
20       to insure proper operation, and so as not to endanger  
21       the ship and radio station as hereinafter provided, and,  
22       in the case of a ship of the United States, unless there  
23       is on board a valid station license issued in accordance  
24       with this Act.

25        "(A) Passenger ships irrespective of size and



1 cargo ships of one thousand six hundred gross tons  
2 and upward shall be equipped with a radiotelegraph  
3 station complying with the provisions of this part;

4 “(B) Cargo ships of three hundred gross tons  
5 and upward but less than one thousand six hundred  
6 gross tons, unless equipped with a radiotelegraph  
7 station complying with the provisions of this part,  
8 shall be equipped with a radiotelephone station com-  
9 plying with the provisions of this part.

10 “(2) For any ship of the United States of one thou-  
11 sand six hundred gross tons and upward to be navigated  
12 in the open sea outside of a harbor or port, or for any  
13 such ship of the United States or any foreign country to  
14 leave or attempt to leave any harbor or port of the  
15 United States for a voyage in the open sea, unless such  
16 ship is equipped with efficient radio direction finding  
17 apparatus approved by the Commission, properly ad-  
18 justed in operating condition as hereinafter provided.”

19 SEC. 3. (a) Subsection (a) of section 352 of the Com-  
20 munications Act of 1934 is amended by striking out para-  
21 graph (6) and inserting after paragraph (5) thereof the  
22 following new paragraphs:

23 “(6) A ship navigating solely on any bays, sounds,  
24 rivers, or protected waters within the jurisdiction of the

1 United States, or to a ship leaving or attempting to leave  
2 any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage solely  
3 on any bays, sounds, rivers, or protected waters within the  
4 jurisdiction of the United States;

5 “(7) A ship navigating solely on the Great Lakes of  
6 North America and the River Saint Lawrence as far east as  
7 a straight line drawn from Cap des Rosiers to West Point,  
8 Anticosti Island, and, on the north side of Anticosti Island,  
9 the sixty-third meridian, or to a ship leaving or attempting  
10 to leave any harbor or port of the United States for a voyage  
11 solely on such waters and within such area;

12 “(8) A ship which is navigated during the course of a  
13 voyage both on the Great Lakes of North America and in  
14 the open sea, during the period while such ship is being  
15 navigated within the Great Lakes of North America and their  
16 connecting and tributary waters as far east as the lower exit  
17 of the Saint Lambert lock at Montreal in the Province of  
18 Quebec, Canada.”

19 (b) Subsection (b) of such section 352 is amended by  
20 striking out all through paragraph (1) and inserting in lieu  
21 thereof the following:

22 “(b) Except for nuclear ships, the Commission may, if  
23 it considers that the route or the conditions of the voyage  
24 or other circumstances are such as to render a radio station  
25 unreasonable or unnecessary for the purposes of this part,

1 exempt from the provisions of this part any ship or class of  
2 ships which falls within any of the following descriptions:

3 “(1) Passenger ships which in the course of their voy-  
4 age do not go more than twenty nautical miles from the  
5 nearest land or, alternatively, do not go more than two hun-  
6 dred nautical miles between two consecutive ports;”

7 (c) Such section 352 is further amended by adding at  
8 the end thereof the following new subsection:

9 “(d) Except for nuclear ships, and except for ships of  
10 five thousand gross tons and upward which are subject to  
11 the Safety Convention, the Commission may exempt from  
12 the requirements, for radio direction finding apparatus, of  
13 this part and of the Safety Convention, any ship which falls  
14 within the descriptions set forth in paragraphs (1), (2),  
15 (3), and (4) of subsection (b ) of this section, if it considers  
16 that the route or conditions of the voyage or other circum-  
17 stances are such as to render such apparatus unreasonable  
18 or unnecessary.”

19 SEC. 4. Section 353 of the Communications Act of 1934  
20 is amended to read as follows:

21 “RADIO OFFICERS, WATCHES, AUTO ALARM-RADIOTELE-  
22 GRAPH EQUIPPED SHIPS

23 “SEC. 353. (a) Each cargo ship which in accordance  
24 with this part is equipped with a radiotelegraph station and  
25 which is not equipped with a radiotelegraph auto alarm, and

1 each passenger ship required by this part to be equipped with  
2 a radiotelegraph station, shall, for safety purposes, carry at  
3 least two radio officers.

4 “(b) A cargo ship which in accordance with this part  
5 is equipped with a radiotelegraph station, which is equipped  
6 with a radiotelegraph auto alarm, shall, for safety purposes,  
7 carry at least one radio officer who shall have had at least  
8 six months’ previous service in the aggregate as a radio officer  
9 in a station on board a ship or ships of the United States.

10 “(c) Each ship of the United States which in accord-  
11 ance with this part is equipped with a radiotelegraph sta-  
12 tion shall, while being navigated in the open sea outside of  
13 a harbor or port, keep a continuous watch by means of radio  
14 officers whenever the station is not being used for authorized  
15 traffic: *Provided*, That, in lieu thereof, on a cargo ship  
16 equipped with a radiotelegraph auto alarm in proper operat-  
17 ing condition, a watch of at least eight hours per day, in the  
18 aggregate, shall be maintained by means of a radio officer.

19 “(d) The Commission shall, when it finds it necessary  
20 for safety purposes, have authority to prescribe the par-  
21 ticular hours of watch on a ship of the United States which  
22 in accordance with this part is equipped with a radiotele-  
23 graph station.

24 “(e) On all ships of the United States equipped with a  
25 radiotelegraph auto alarm, said apparatus shall be in opera-

1 tion at all times while the ship is being navigated in the  
2 open sea outside of a harbor or port when the radio officer  
3 is not on watch."

4 SEC. 5. Section 354 of the Communications Act of 1934  
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 "OPERATORS, WATCHES—RADIO TELEPHONE EQUIPPED  
7 SHIPS

8 "SEC. 354. (a) Each cargo ship which in accordance  
9 with this part is equipped with a radiotelephone station shall,  
10 for safety purposes, carry at least one operator who may be  
11 the master, an officer, or a member of the crew.

12 "(b) Each cargo ship of the United States which in  
13 accordance with this part is equipped with a radiotelephone  
14 station shall, while being navigated in the open sea outside  
15 of a harbor or port, maintain continuous watch whenever the  
16 station is not being used for authorized traffic."

17 SEC. 6. Section 355 of the Communications Act of 1934  
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 'TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEGRAPH EQUIPPED  
20 SHIPS

21 "SEC. 355. The radiotelegraph station and the radio  
22 direction finding apparatus required by section 351 of this  
23 part shall comply with the following requirements:

24 "(a) The radiotelegraph station shall include a main in-

1 stallation and a reserve installation, electrically separate and  
2 electrically independent of each other: *Provided, That, in*  
3 installations on cargo ships of three hundred gross tons and  
4 upward but less than one thousand six hundred gross  
5 tons, and in installations on cargo ships of one thousand  
6 six hundred gross tons and upward installed prior to No-  
7 vember 19, 1952, if the main transmitter complies with all  
8 the requirements for the reserve transmitter, the latter may  
9 be omitted.

10 “(b) The radiotelegraph station shall be so located that  
11 no harmful interference from extraneous mechanical or other  
12 noise will be caused to the proper reception of radio signals,  
13 and shall be placed in the upper part of the ship in a position  
14 of the greatest possible safety and as high as practicable  
15 above the deepest load waterline. The location of the radio-  
16 telegraph operating room or rooms shall be approved by the  
17 Commandant of the Coast Guard. The radiotelegraph instal-  
18 lation shall be installed in such a position that it will be pro-  
19 tected against the harmful effects of water or extremes of  
20 temperature, and shall be readily accessible both for imme-  
21 diate use in case of distress and for repair.

22 “(c) The radiotelegraph operating room shall be of  
23 sufficient size and of adequate ventilation to enable the  
24 main and reserve radiotelegraph installations to be operated

1 efficiently, and shall not be used for any purpose which will  
2 interfere with the operation of the radiotelegraph station.  
3 The sleeping accommodation of at least one radio officer  
4 shall be situated as near as practicable to the radiotelegraph  
5 operating room. In ships the keels of which are laid on or  
6 after May 26, 1965, this sleeping accommodation shall not  
7 be within the radiotelegraph operating room.

8 “(d) The main and reserve installations shall be capable  
9 of transmitting and receiving on the frequencies, and using  
10 the classes of emission, designated by the Commission pur-  
11 suant to law for the purposes of distress and safety of  
12 navigation.

13 “(e) The main and reserve installations shall, when  
14 connected to the main antenna, have a minimum normal  
15 range of two hundred nautical miles and one hundred nau-  
16 tical miles, respectively; that is, they must be capable of  
17 transmitting and receiving clearly perceptible signals from  
18 ship to ship by day and under normal conditions and circum-  
19 stances over the specified ranges.

20 “(f) Sufficient electrical energy shall be available at  
21 all times to operate the main installation over the normal  
22 range required by subsection (e) of this section as well as  
23 for the purpose of charging any batteries forming part of  
24 the radiotelegraph station.

1       “(g) The reserve installation shall include a source of  
2   electrical energy independent of the propelling power of the  
3   ship and of any other electrical system and shall be capable  
4   of being put into operation rapidly and of working for at  
5   least six continuous hours. The reserve source of energy  
6   and its switchboard shall be as high as practicable in the  
7   ship and readily accessible to the radio officer.

8       “(h) There shall be provided between the bridge of  
9   the ship and the radiotelegraph operating room, and be-  
10   tween the bridge and the location of the radio direction  
11   finding apparatus, when such apparatus is not located on  
12   the bridge, an efficient two-way system for calling and voice  
13   communication which shall be independent of any other  
14   communication system in the ship.

15       “(i) The radio direction finding apparatus shall be  
16   efficient and capable of receiving signals with the minimum  
17   of receiver noise and of taking bearings from which the  
18   true bearing and direction may be determined. It shall be  
19   capable of receiving signals on the radiotelegraph frequen-  
20   cies assigned by the radio regulations annexed to the In-  
21   ternational Telecommunication Convention in force for the  
22   purposes of distress, direction finding, and maritime radio  
23   beacons, and, in installations made after May 26, 1965,  
24   such other frequencies as the Commission may for safety  
25   purposes designate.”



1        SEC. 7. Section 356 of the Communications Act of 1934  
2        is amended to read as follows:

3 "TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS—RADIOTELEPHONE EQUIPPED  
4 SHIPS

5       “SEC. 356. Cargo ships of three hundred gross tons and  
6   upward but less than one thousand six hundred gross tons  
7   may, in lieu of the radiotelegraph station prescribed by sec-  
8   tion 355, be equipped with a radiotelephone station comply-  
9   ing with the following requirements:

10       “(a) The radiotelephone station shall be in the upper  
11 part of the ship, so located that it is sheltered to the greatest  
12 possible extent from noise which might impair the correct  
13 reception of messages and signals, and, unless such station  
14 is situated on the bridge, there shall be efficient communica-  
15 tion with the bridge.

“ (b) The radiotelephone installation shall be capable of transmitting and receiving on the frequencies, and using the classes of emission, designated by the Commission pursuant to law for the purposes of distress and safety of navigation.

20       “(c) The radiotelephone installation shall have a mini-  
21       mum normal range of one hundred and fifty nautical miles;  
22       that is, it shall be capable of transmitting and receiving  
23       clearly perceptible signals from ship to ship by day and  
24       under normal conditions and circumstances over this range.

1       “(d) There shall be available at all times a main source  
2 of electrical energy sufficient to operate the installation over  
3 the normal range required by subsection (c) of this section.  
4 If batteries are provided they shall have sufficient capacity  
5 to operate the transmitter and receiver for at least six con-  
6 tinuous hours under normal working conditions. In installa-  
7 tions made on or after November 19, 1952, a reserve source  
8 of electrical energy shall be provided in the upper part of the  
9 ship unless the main source of energy is so situated.”

10       SEC. 8. Section 357 of the Communications Act of 1934  
11 is amended to read as follows:

12                               “SURVIVAL CRAFT

13       “SEC. 357. Every ship required to be provided with sur-  
14 vival craft radio by treaty to which the United States is a  
15 party, by statute, or by regulation made in conformity with a  
16 treaty, convention, or statute, shall be fitted with efficient  
17 radio equipment appropriate to such requirement under such  
18 rules and regulations as the Commission may find necessary  
19 for safety of life. For purposes of this section, ‘radio equip-  
20 ment’ shall include portable as well as nonportable appa-  
21 ratus.”

22       SEC. 9. Subsection (a) of section 359 of the Communi-  
23 cations Act of 1934 is amended to read as follows:

24       “(a) The master of every ship of the United States,

1 equipped with radio transmitting apparatus, which meets  
2 with dangerous ice, a dangerous derelict, a tropical storm, or  
3 any other direct danger to navigation, or encounters sub-  
4 freezing air temperatures associated with gale force winds  
5 causing severe ice accretion on superstructures, or winds of  
6 force 10 or above on the Beaufort scale for which no storm  
7 warning has been received, shall cause to be transmitted all  
8 pertinent information relating thereto to ships in the vicinity  
9 and to the appropriate authorities on land, in accordance with  
10 rules and regulations issued by the Commission. When they  
11 consider it necessary, such authorities of the United States  
12 shall promptly bring the information received by them to  
13 the knowledge of those concerned, including interested for-  
14 eign authorities."

15 SEC. 10. Section 361 of the Communications Act of  
16 1934 is amended to read as follows:

17 "CERTIFICATES

18 "SEC. 361. (a) Each vessel of the United States to  
19 which the Safety Convention applies shall comply with the  
20 radio and communication provisions of said Convention at all  
21 times while the vessel is in use, in addition to all other re-  
22 quirements of law, and shall have on board an appropriate  
23 certificate as prescribed by the Safety Convention.

1       “(b) Appropriate certificates concerning the radio par-  
2       ticulars provided for in said Convention shall be issued upon  
3       proper request to any vessel which is subject to the radio  
4       provisions of the Safety Convention and is found by the Com-  
5       mission to comply therewith. Cargo ship safety radio teleg-  
6       raphy certificates, cargo ship safety radiotelephony cer-  
7       tificates, and exemption certificates with respect to radio  
8       particulars shall be issued by the Commission. Other cer-  
9       tificates concerning the radio particulars provided for in the  
10      said Convention shall be issued by the Commandant of the  
11      Coast Guard or whatever other agency is authorized by law  
12      to do so upon request of the Commission made after proper  
13      inspection or determination of the facts. If the holder of a  
14      certificate violates the radio provisions of the Safety Conven-  
15      tion or the provisions of this Act, or the rules, regulations, or  
16      conditions prescribed by the Commission, and if the effective  
17      administration of the Safety Convention or of this part so  
18      requires, the Commission, after hearing in accordance with  
19      law, is authorized to modify or cancel a certificate which it  
20      has issued, or to request the modification or cancellation of a  
21      certificate which has been issued by another agency upon  
22      the Commission’s request. Upon receipt of such request for  
23      modification or cancellation, the Commandant of the Coast

- 1 Guard, or whatever agency is authorized by law to do so,
- 2 shall modify or cancel the certificate in accordance there-
- 3 with."

Passed the House of Representatives June 7, 1965.

Attest:                      RALPH R. ROBERTS,  
*Clerk.*

Calendar No. 510

89TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 7954

[Report No. 526]

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## AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to conform to the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, London (1960).

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JUNE 8 (legislative day, JUNE 7), 1965

**Read twice and referred to the Committee on  
Commerce**

JULY 28 (legislative day, JULY 27), 1965

Reported without amendment